

# Dbl Newsletter

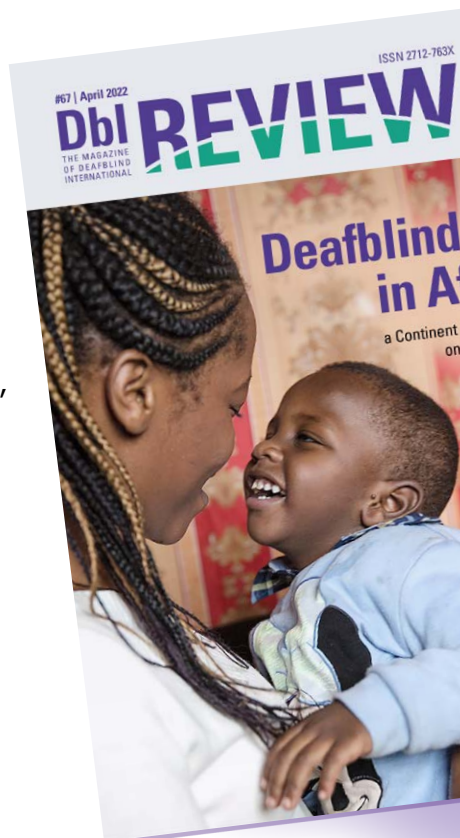
Issue #4 | August 2022



## The Latest Issue of Dbl Review #67 is Published

### In this issue, you will find

- **news** over the last six months,
- **articles** on the early intervention in a multi-sensory environment, deafblindness in Africa, paths to employment and ect,
- people share their **experiences** how to be a deafblind parent nowadays,
- **recommendations** in education for children with charge syndrome and more.



Download the latest digital issue #67, April 2022.



Call for papers for the next spring issue is available here.



**And really GREAT news:** thanks to your friends from the Perkins School for the Blind Dbl Review became even more accessible!  
Dbl Review #66 in audio format.

### What's new

- The Latest Issue of Dbl Review #67 is Published
- We're Connecting with the World about Deafblindness, One Stitch at a Time
- Network News. Network of the Americas
- Network News. Research Network Update
- Hello from the Nordic CHARGE network





# We're Connecting with the World about Deafblindness, One Stitch at a Time

Nearly 70 regions around the world are participating in yarn bombing, a form of street art where yarn that is knit, crochet, or wrapped, adorns an object in a public space.

In its second year, yarn bombing is an awareness initiative of Deafblind International's (Dbi) Communication Committee, also known as ComCom. June is a time when many around the world celebrate and raise awareness about deafblindness, as it is the birth month of Helen Keller. One of the most internationally recognized people with deafblindness.

By coming together to yarn bomb objects and community spaces in as many cities

and countries as possible, we strive to foster connections and unite a community with individuals, service and advocacy groups in the field, Dbi members and partners, along with the wider global public.

Check out these colourful, tactile displays on trees, built landscapes, houses and community spaces around the world using the social media hashtag **#DbiYarnBombing2022!**

It's not too late to participate! Grab your knitting needles, crochet hooks, colourful yarn and learn more:

<https://www.deafblindinternational.org/yarn-bombing/>



## Network News. Network of the Americas

Dbi Network Americas joins together members from across the United States, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean to collaborate, support, and share information, best practices and policies toward the attainment of the highest quality of life for people with deafblindness, their families and the larger community.

We are happy to report that although we are a relatively young network, we are growing! We now have over 150 members spanning 15 countries. During this year, we have focused on creating topical discussion forums that showcase the knowledge across the geographic regions that are the focus of the network and to engage in dialogue.

On March 2 we hosted a topical discussion on the theme of "Successful Family and Professional Partnerships: What makes them work." We had presentations from family and professional teams from Canada, Mexico and the United States. It was truly inspiring.

On May 26, participants will engage in a second topical discussion on "Foundations of Communication and Learning. We will watch a video presentation by Dr. Barbara McLetchie, a world renowned expert in the education of learners who are deafblind. Dr. McLetchie will join the discussion group.

We are looking forward to growing our network. If you would like to join, please join – [Registration form here!](#)

It's free!



## Network News. Research Network Update

The Dbl Research Network is well into its 8th year of existence, and we continue to grow and expand. As of May 2022, we now have 183 members on our e-mail contact list.

**Saskia Damen & Flemming Ask Larsen** continue the maintenance of the Deaf-blind International Research Network [Facebook Group](#), currently at 1,375 members and growing. Come look us up and join in the conversation! **Walter Wittich** continues to maintain our Deafblind International Research Network [LinkedIn group](#), currently with 129 members.

The Action Research Working Group, led by **Susan Bruce** continues to promote [collaborative opportunities](#), and you can learn more about her efforts on our Research Network web page. Additional initiatives are always welcome, so please get in touch with any of the members of the Dbl Research Network, in case you have an idea you would like to share.

Several members of the Dbl Research Network continue to collaborate on our team effort to create a Core Set for deafblindness, using the [World Health Organization International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health \(WHO ICF\)](#) framework. Initiated by the leadership of Ricard

Lopez, we have been able to recruit a 50+ member team to conduct a systematic literature review. You can learn more about the overall process through our open-access publication. [Here we describe the overall project and its purpose in more detail.](#)

The current leadership team of the Research Network is composed of:

- **Prof. Dr. Walter Wittich**, Canada (Chair) – [link](#)
- **Dr. Saskia Damen**, Netherlands (deputy) – [link](#)
- **Prof. Dr. Marleen Janssen**, Netherlands (core-member) – [link](#)
- **Dr. Meredith Prain**, Australia (core-member) – [link](#)
- **Dr. Alana Roy**, Australia (core-member) – [link](#)

Please feel free to contact any one of us if you have any ideas for us, or other requests for research-specific information, we look forward to hearing from you, and please feel free to check out the networking opportunities on [our web page](#).

and contact us with your interests and thoughts.

*Your Research Network Team*

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## Hello from the Nordic CHARGE network

We met in May in Iceland and part of the meeting we worked on our upcoming publication on CHARGE. It will be published by the Nordic Welfare Centre, who is the coordinator of the network. The publication will be in English and it will be followed by a webinar series. On our meeting we also planned the celebration of our 20th anniversary as a network. It will take place at the Nordic conference on Deafblind-

ness in Tampere where we will do a network presentation. [The network](#) consists of members from Norway, Denmark, Iceland and Sweden. We collaborate with different national groups on CHARGE and with the international network.

**Nordiskt CHARGE nätverk**  
